

**What is claimed is:**

1. A hot water heater system, comprising:  
a hot water tank;  
a hot water heater;  
5 a pressure relief device which is activated when the hot water heater system is in an overpressure or over-temperature condition;  
a relief line which is engaged when the pressure relief device is activated; and  
an output device for providing indicia that the pressure relief device is activated.
2. The hot water heater system of claim 1, wherein the output device is a display  
10 device.
3. The hot water heater system of claim 1, wherein the output device is an alarm.
4. The hot water heater system of claim 1, wherein the output device is a display device located on or adjacent to the hot water heater system in the room where the hot water heater system is installed.
- 15 5. The hot water heater system of claim 1, wherein the output device is a display device located in a room other than where the hot water heater system is installed.
6. The hot water heater system of claim 1, wherein the output device is an alarm device located in a room other than where the hot water heater system is installed.
7. A hot water heater system, comprising:  
20 a hot water tank;  
a hot water heater;

a pressure relief device which is activated when the hot water heater system is in an overpressure or over-temperature condition;

a relief line which is engaged when the pressure relief device is activated; and

means for interrupting or reducing water intake when the pressure device is  
5 activated.

8. The hot water heater system of claim 7, wherein the means for interrupting or reducing comprises a valve that shuts off or reduces the water intake.

9. The hot water heater system of claim 8, wherein the valve is a solenoid valve.

10. A hot water heater system, comprising:  
10 a hot water tank;  
a hot water heater;  
a pressure relief device which is activated when the hot water heater system is in an overpressure or over-temperature condition;  
a relief line which is engaged when the pressure relief device is activated; and  
15 means for interrupting or reducing power to the hot water heater when the pressure relief device is activated.

11. The hot water heater system of claim 10, wherein the means for interrupting or reducing power comprises one or more contacts which open in order to interrupt power flow when the pressure relief device is activated.

20 12. The hot water heater system of claim 10, wherein the means for interrupting or reducing power comprises one or more variable resistance devices which interrupt or reduce power flow when the pressure relief device is activated.

13. A hot water heater system, comprising:
- a hot water tank;
  - a hot water heater;
  - 5 a pressure relief device which is activated when the hot water heater system is in an overpressure or over-temperature condition;
  - a relief line which is engaged when the pressure relief device is activated; and
  - means for interrupting or reducing water intake when the pressure device is activated; and
  - 10 means for interrupting or reducing power to the hot water heater when the pressure relief device is activated.
14. The hot water heater system of claim 13, wherein the means for interrupting water intake comprises a valve that blocks or reduces water intake when the pressure device is activated, and the means for interrupting power comprises one or more contacts which open
- 15 in order to interrupt power flow when the pressure relief device is activated
15. A hot water heater system, comprising:
- a hot water tank;
  - a hot water heater;
  - a pressure relief device which is activated when the hot water heater system is in an
  - 20 overpressure or over-temperature condition;
  - a relief line which is engaged when the pressure relief device is activated; and

means for interrupting or reducing water intake when the pressure device is activated; and

means for interrupting or reducing power to the hot water heater when the pressure relief device is activated; and

5 an output device for providing indicia that the pressure relief device is activated.

16. The hot water heater system of claim 15, wherein the output device comprises a display device.

17. The hot water heater system of claim 15, wherein the output device is an alarm.

18. The hot water heater system of claim 15, wherein the output device comprises a  
10 display device and an alarm.

19. A method of controlling a hot water heater system, comprising:

heating water in a hot water tank;

detecting an overpressure or an over-temperature condition;

routing water through a relief line based on the detecting step; and

15 actuating an output device based on the detecting step.

20. The method of claim 19, wherein the output device comprises a display device.

21. The method of claim 19, wherein the output device comprises an alarm.

22. The method of claim 19, wherein the output device comprises a display device and  
an alarm.

20 23. The method of claim 19, further comprising interrupting or reducing water intake to  
the hot water system based on the detecting step.

24. The method of claim 19, further comprising interrupting or reducing power to the hot water system based on the detecting step.

25. The method of claim 19, further comprising interrupting or reducing water intake to the hot water system and interrupting power to the hot water system based on the detecting

5 step.